

## Section 11.4

**The Comparison Test (Strict Comparison):** Suppose that  $\sum a_n$  and  $\sum b_n$  are series with positive terms.

(a) If  $\sum b_n$  is convergent and  $a_n \leq b_n$  for all  $n$ , then  $\sum a_n$  is also convergent.

(b) If  $\sum b_n$  is divergent and  $a_n \geq b_n$  for all  $n$ , then  $\sum a_n$  is also divergent.

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**Limit Comparison Test (LCT):** Suppose that  $\sum a_n$  and  $\sum b_n$  are series with positive terms and

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_n}{b_n} = L$$

Testing

Known

If  $L$  is a number greater than zero,  $L > 0$ , then both series converge or both series diverge.

Determine if the series converges or diverges.

$$1. \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{3^n - 1}{5n + 4^n}$$

Comparison

$$5n + 4^n > 4^n$$

$$\frac{1}{5n + 4^n} < \frac{1}{4^n}$$

$$\frac{3^n - 1}{5n + 4^n} < \frac{3^n - 1}{4^n}$$

$$3^n - 1 < 3^n$$

$$\frac{3^n - 1}{4^n} < \frac{3^n}{4^n} = \left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^n$$

$$\frac{3^n - 1}{5n + 4^n} < \left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^n$$

$$\sum \left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^n$$

geometric  $r = \frac{3}{4}$   $|r| < 1$

so it converges

by the comparison test  $\sum \frac{3^n - 1}{5n + 4^n}$   
will conv.

Determine if the series converges or diverges.

1.  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{3^n - 1}{5n + 4^n}$

Try LCT

Looks like

$$\sum \frac{3^n}{4^n} = \sum \left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^n$$

geometric

$$r = \frac{3}{4}$$

$$|r| < 1 \quad \text{Convergent}$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{3^n - 1}{5n + 4^n}}{\frac{3^n}{4^n}} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{3^n - 1}{5n + 4^n} \cdot \frac{4^n}{3^n}$$

$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{3^n - 1}{3^n} \cdot \frac{4^n}{5n + 4^n} \right) = 1 \cdot 1 = 1$$

by LCT Both series do same (Both conv or Both div)

So The series converges.

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{3^n - 1}{3^n} \stackrel{L'H}{=} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{3^n \ln(3)}{3^n \ln(3)} = 1$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{4^n}{5n + 4^n} \stackrel{L'H}{=} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{4^n \ln(4)}{5 + 4^n \ln(4)} \stackrel{L'H}{=} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{4^n (\ln(4))^2}{4^n (\ln(4))^2} = 1$$

$$2. \sum_{n=4}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt[3]{n^2-3}}$$

looks like  $\sum_{n=4}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt[3]{n^2}} = \sum_{n=4}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^{2/3}}$   
 p-series  $p = 2/3 < 1$   
diverges

LCT

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{1}{\sqrt[3]{n^2-3}}}{\frac{1}{\sqrt[3]{n^2}}} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt[3]{n^2}}{\sqrt[3]{n^2-3}} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[3]{\frac{n^2}{n^2-3}}$$

$$= \sqrt[3]{1} = 1$$

LCT says Both series do the same  
 ( ) (Both conv or Both d.v.)  
 Thus the series diverges

$$3. \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{5 + \sin(n)}{5n^3 + n + 1}$$

$$4 \leq 5 + \sin(n) \leq 6$$

$$\frac{4}{5n^3 + n + 1} \leq \frac{5 + \sin(n)}{5n^3 + n + 1} \leq \frac{6}{5n^3 + n + 1}$$

Use LCT with  $\sum \frac{1}{n^3}$  to test.  $\sum \frac{6}{5n^3 + n + 1}$   
 Conv. p-series.

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{6}{5n^3 + n + 1}}{\frac{1}{n^3}} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{6n^3}{5n^3 + n + 1} = \frac{6}{5}$$

by LCT  $\sum \frac{6}{5n^3 + n + 1}$  conv.

by the comparison test we get  $\sum \frac{5 + \sin(n)}{5n^3 + n + 1}$

converges.

$$4. \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\sqrt{n+1}}{(2n+5)^4}$$

Looks like

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\sqrt{n}}{n^4} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^{3.5}}$$

p-series  $p=3.5 > 1$   
 Conv.

Use LCT

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{\sqrt{n+1}}{(2n+5)^4}}{\frac{\sqrt{n}}{n^4}} &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt{n+1}}{(2n+5)^4} \cdot \frac{n^4}{\sqrt{n}} \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt{n+1}}{\sqrt{n}} \cdot \frac{n^4}{(2n+5)^4} \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt{\frac{n+1}{n}} \cdot \left(\frac{n}{2n+5}\right)^4 \\ &= \sqrt{1} \cdot \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^4 = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^4 \end{aligned}$$

Since  $\sum \frac{\sqrt{n}}{n^4}$  conv. by LCT  $\sum \frac{\sqrt{n+1}}{(2n+5)^4}$  conv.

$$5. \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\ln(n)}{\sqrt{n}}$$

looks like

$$\sum \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}$$

div.  
p-series  
 $p = \frac{1}{2}$

LCT

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{\ln(n)}{\sqrt{n}}}{\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\ln(n)}{\sqrt{n}} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{n}}{1} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \ln(n) = \infty$$

LCT Failed to give information

$\ln(n)$



$1 < \ln(n)$   
if  $n > e = 2.71\dots$

if  $n > 3$  then  $1 < \ln(n)$

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} < \frac{\ln(n)}{\sqrt{n}}$$

$\sum \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}$  p-series  $p = \frac{1}{2}$  div.

by comparison test  $\sum \frac{\ln(n)}{\sqrt{n}}$  will div.

$$6. \sum_{n=4}^{\infty} \frac{4n^3 + 7n^2}{\sqrt{3n^2 + n^{10} + 5}} = J$$

Looks like

$$\sum \frac{4n^3}{\sqrt{n^{10}}} = \sum \frac{4n^3}{n^5}$$

$$= \sum \frac{4}{n^2}$$

p-series  $p=2$  conv.

LCT with  $\sum \frac{4n^3}{\sqrt{n^{10}}}$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{4n^3 + 7n^2}{\sqrt{3n^2 + n^{10} + 5}}}{\frac{4n^3}{\sqrt{n^{10}}}} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{4n^3 + 7n^2}{\sqrt{3n^2 + n^{10} + 5}} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{n^{10}}}{4n^3}$$

$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{4n^3 + 7n^2}{4n^3} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{n^{10}}{n^{10} + 3n^2 + 5}}$$

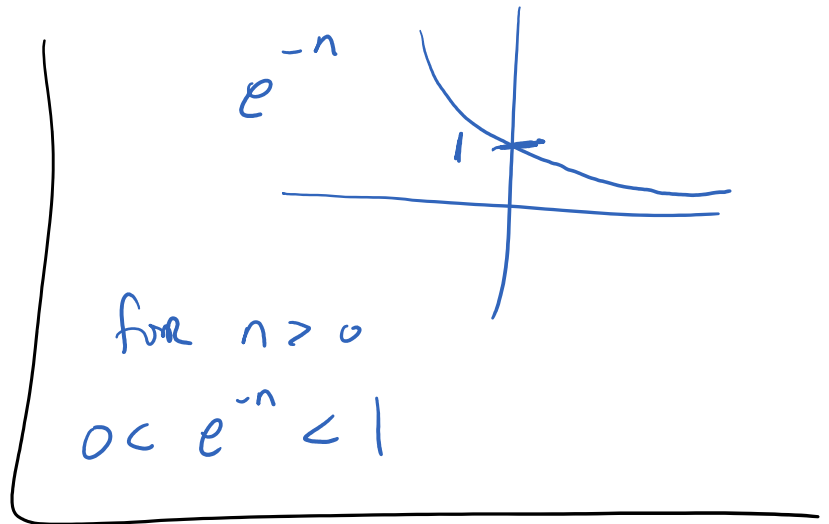
$$= \frac{4}{4} \cdot \sqrt{1} = 1 \cdot 1 = 1$$

Since  $\sum \frac{4}{n^2}$  will converge by LCT

The series J will conv.



$$7. \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{2ne^{-n}}{n^3 + 4n^2}$$



$$2ne^{-n} < 2n$$

new series

$$\frac{2ne^{-n}}{n^3 + 4n^2} < \frac{2n}{n^3 + 4n^2}$$

$$\sum \frac{2n}{n^3 + 4n^2}$$

use LCT with  $\sum \frac{2}{n^2}$

looks like

$$\sum \frac{2n}{n^3} = \sum \frac{2}{n^2}$$

p-series conv.  
 $p=2$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{2n}{n^3 + 4n^2}}{\frac{2}{n^2}} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2n}{n^3 + 4n^2} \cdot \frac{n^2}{2}$$

$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2n^3}{2n^3 + 8n^2} = \frac{2}{2} = 1$$

By LCT  $\sum \frac{2n}{n^3 + 4n^2}$  will conv.

By comparison test we get  $\sum \frac{2n e^{-n}}{n^3 + 4n^2}$  will conv.

$$8. \sum_{n=3}^{\infty} \frac{5 - \sin^2(n)}{\sqrt{n-1}}$$

$$0 \leq \sin^2(x) \leq 1$$

$$0 \geq -\sin^2(x) \geq -1$$

$$5 \geq 5 - \sin^2(x) \geq 5 - 1 = 4$$

$$4 \leq 5 - \sin^2(x) \leq 5$$

$$\frac{4}{\sqrt{n-1}} \leq \frac{5 - \sin^2(x)}{\sqrt{n-1}} \leq \frac{5}{\sqrt{n-1}}$$

look like  $\sum \frac{4}{\sqrt{n}}$  or  $\sum \frac{5}{\sqrt{n}}$   
 p-series  $p = \frac{1}{2}$  d.v.

LCT with  $\sum \frac{4}{\sqrt{n}}$  d.v.  $p = \frac{1}{2}$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{4}{\sqrt{n-1}}}{\frac{4}{\sqrt{n}}} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{4}{\sqrt{n-1}} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{n}}{4} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt{\frac{n}{n-1}}$$

$$= \sqrt{1} = 1$$

by LCT  $\sum \frac{4}{\sqrt{n-1}}$  will diverge since  $\sum \frac{4}{\sqrt{n}}$  d.v.

by the comparison test we get  $\sum \frac{5 - \sin^2(n)}{\sqrt{n-1}}$   
will diverge